



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

desirable from a purely bread-and-butter point of view, to install sanitary appliances and safety devices in factories, or to refuse to employ child workers?

Chapter IV on the "Standing of Massachusetts in the Administration of Labor Legislation" is the most valuable study in the volume. American legislatures are prone to pass a mass of legislation "which contains much dead timber" because the administrative system provided is inadequate to perform its proper functions. The administration of labor laws in Massachusetts is compared quantitatively and qualitatively with that in other states. The conclusion is reached that Massachusetts, as compared with other states, stands near the top in regard to laws regulating the conditions of labor and prescribing the enforcement of such laws; "but she has fallen far behind our other states in providing the machinery for enforcing those laws." A careful analysis of the problems connected with the administration of labor laws is found in this chapter. The need of standardizing terms is emphasized. Such a common term as "factory" is not sufficiently standardized to allow accurate comparisons to be made between different reports upon labor conditions. Charts are appended comparing the systems of administration of labor laws in different states.

Chapter V contains a digest of the Labor Laws of Massachusetts, 1902-1910. Chapter VI is concerned with the regulation of private employment agencies in the United States. The conclusions reached indicate that there is at present no adequate state or national system of regulating private employment agencies. Charts are used to compare the system provided in the various states for licensing and regulating such agencies.

FRANK T. CARLTON.

Albion College.

Les Conditions du Travail aux Etats-Unis, Etudiées Specialement dans la Tannerie au Chrome pour Chaussures. Rapports Présentés à M. le Ministère du Travail. By F. PIN, H. CHAUMARTIN, CH. FRITZ, F. RICHARD and CHARLES BARRAT. (Paris: Edouard Cornély et Cie. 1910. Pp. xvi, 317.)

In 1908, at the instance of the management of a French tannery, the Minister of Labor dispatched a commission to study industrial conditions in the United States. The commission was composed of an investigator attached to the Department of Labor, two repre-

sentatives of the tannery, and two members of trade-unions. Although much of the matter of the report is familiar to American economists, some of the observations are illuminating, since they call attention to aspects of our industrial life which are too near to our eyes to be clearly seen.

They find that we use machinery with an almost incredible ingenuity, and attribute this in no small part to the scarcity of labor and consequent need of economy. The visitors call attention to the advantages of protection, and also to the favoring influence of immigration, which has caused our population to increase rapidly, affording our trade a stimulus which French trade lacks. They remark the lack of apprenticeship methods; and are surprised to find practically no opposition on the part of labor to the use of machines. They comment favorably upon the extent to which joint agreements are entered into between an employer and a group of operatives, and gather the impression that such agreements are practically always honestly carried out by the men. They are astonished at the devouring ambition of our workmen to get ahead as evidenced by their taking courses in correspondence schools. The trade unionists seem to have stood astounded at the great pile of food products which they saw in certain sections of our markets. Here was very visible evidence of how blessed we are; indeed these French workmen believe that it costs far less to buy the necessities of life in this country than it does in their own. They are agreeably impressed also by the fact that we are able to get along almost without the labor of women in the tanning industry, and that we secure education for children by forbidding them to go into factories until they are fourteen years old. Are there not, they suggest, some abuses in the shape of despotic discipline, due to multiplicity of nationality? And is it not strange that American law does not secure adequate compensation to injured workmen? Is there not an absence of congenial neighborhood affection, to furnish the workman, in addition to his material income, with that sociable atmosphere which is so necessary to a Frenchman? These visitors do not believe that the American workmen give signs of any greater capacity than their French colleagues, but they are sure that the former are much better paid.

CARL E. PARRY.

University of Michigan.